

8/11/00

**Preliminary Program**

**Environmental Factors in Medically Unexplained Physical Symptoms  
and Related Syndromes**

**at**

**the Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute,  
Piscataway, New Jersey**

**January 10-12, 2001**

**JANUARY 10<sup>th</sup>**

7:30am      **Registration and Continental Breakfast**

8:30          **Welcome and Organizational Remarks**  
*Bernard Goldstein, M.D., EOHSI*  
*Howard Kipen, M.D., M.P.H., EOHSI and UMDNJ-RWJMS*

**Epidemiology of Unexplained Physical Symptoms Attributed to Environment**  
*Presider: Howard Kipen, M.D., M.P.H., EOHSI and UMDNJ-RWJMS*

8:45          **Symptoms or the Environment: Lessons Learned from Epidemiologic  
Investigations of Unexplained Symptoms in the US**  
*William Reeves, M.D., Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

9:25          **Unbiased Epidemiology of an Unexplained Symptom Syndrome**  
*Richard Kreutzer, M.D., California Department of Health Services*

9:55          **Unexplained Symptoms With and Without Strong Attribution: MCS vs. CFS  
and FM**  
*Howard Kipen, M.D., M.P.H., EOHSI and UMDNJ-RWJMS*

10:20        **Break**

10:40        **Models of Unexplained Symptom Syndromes**  
*Anne Spurgeon, Ph.D., University of Birmingham*

11:10        **Symptoms or the Environment: Lessons Learned from Epidemiologic**

PM3006558261

- Investigations of Unexplained Symptoms in the UK**  
*Simon Wessely, M.D., Gulf War Research Unit, King's College*
- 11:40 **Discussion**
- 12:00 **Lunch**
- 1:30 **The Prevalence of Self Reported Electrical Sensitivity in California and its Demographic Correlates**  
*Raymond Neutra, M.D., California Department of Health Services*

**Psychosocial Mechanisms and Classification of Medically Unexplained Physical Symptoms**  
*Presider: Javier Escobar, M.D., MS, UMDNJ-RWJMS*

- 2:00 **Somatization: Epidemiology and Risk Factors**  
*Javier Escobar, M.D., M.S., UMDNJ-RWJMS*
- 2:30 **Environmental Catastrophe as a Risk Factor for Symptoms**  
*Evelyn Bromet, Ph.D., State University of New York - Stony Brook*
- 3:00 **Break**
- 3:30 **Traumatic Stress, PTSD, and Unexplained Symptoms**  
*Carol North, M.D., M.P.E., Washington University School of Medicine*
- 4:00 **Childhood Risk Factors**  
*Matthew Hotopf, M.D., Gulf War Research Unit, King's College*
- 4:30 **Treatment of Unexplained Symptoms After the Gulf War**  
*Chuck Engel, M.D., M.P.H., Gulf War Health Center, U.S. Army*
- 5:00 **Discussion**
- 5:30 **Adjourn**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 11<sup>th</sup>**

- 7:30am **Registration and Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30am **Organizational Remarks**  
*Howard Kipen, M.D., M.P.H., EOHSI and UMDNJ-RWJMS*

**Biological Mechanisms for Unexplained Symptoms**

*Presider: Nancy Fiedler, Ph.D., EOHSI and UMDNJ-RWJMS*

- 8:35            **Odors as Triggers for Acute and Chronic Symptomatology**  
*William Cain, Ph.D., University of California - San Diego*
- 9:05            **The Nose and Nasal Mucosa as Mediators of Symptoms**  
*Dennis Shusterman, M.D., M.P.H., University of California - San Francisco*
- 9:35            **Controlled Exposure Studies to Deconstruct Unexplained Symptoms**  
*Nancy Fiedler, Ph.D., EOHSI and UMDNJ-RWJMS*
- 10:05           **Discussion**
- 10:20           **Break**
- 10:45           **Indoor Air Quality as an Example of Symptoms with Complex Origins**  
*Michael Hodgson, M.D., U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs*
- 11:15           **Response to Provocative Challenge with CO<sub>2</sub> in MCS Subjects: Implications**  
*Susan Tarlo, M.B.,B.S., University of Toronto Occupational Lung Disease Clinic*
- 11:45           **Discussion**
- 12:05           **Lunch**
- 1:15            **Neuro-Imaging Markers of Unexplained Symptom Syndromes**  
*Howard Hu, M.D., Harvard University School of Public Health*
- 1:45            **Investigation of Brain-Behavior Relationships in Chronic Fatigue Syndrome**  
*Gudrun Lange, Ph.D., UMDNJ-NJMS and Persian Gulf Research Center and Neurobehavioral Unit, VA Medical Center*
- 2:15            **Immunological and Physiological Function in Unexplained Illness**  
*Benjamin Natelson, M.D., UMDNJ-NJMS and Persian Gulf Research Center and Neurobehavioral Unit, VA Medical Center*
- 2:45            **Discussion**

3:05            **Adjourn**

**Remainder of Afternoon is for Research Recommendation Working Groups for  
Speakers and Invited Scientists.**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 12<sup>th</sup>**

7:30am        **Continental Breakfast**

8:30           **Group Meetings on Research Recommendations Continue (Speakers and  
Invited Scientists Only)**

8:30 - 12:00   **Special Program - Treatment Symposium for Medically Unexplained Symptoms**  
*Patients with somatic symptoms not explained by organic illness are a challenge for  
physicians and therapists, alike. This treatment symposium will focus on cognitive  
behavioral interventions designed specifically for the patient who presents with  
somatic symptoms and who may be resistant to behavioral treatment strategies. This  
workshop combines didactic and experiential exercises to clarify the myths and facts  
about these illnesses and to offer treatment approaches currently being applied with  
this patient group.*

12:00        **Presentation of Research Recommendations Over Lunch - All Attendees are  
Welcome**

2:00           **Adjourn**